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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
SOURCES METHOD EXEMPTION 3B2B
VAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT
DATE 2007

3 October 1967

MEMORANDUM FOR: Chief, CA/Prop

ATTENTION

: L

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SUBJECT

: Document Indicating Dissent in the
Ukrainian SSR

1. Attached is a summary of the CHORNOVIL document about which I told you earlier last week. An English-language translation of the document itself is available, if you would care to see it. The author, Vyacheslav CHORNOVIL, a journalist, is a former secretary of the Komsomol and a former head of a Ukrainian Council of Pioneers. Since the receipt of the document, word was received in the West that he was sent to prison on 3 August because of his preoccupation with the defense of his imprisoned colleagues. CHORNOVIL, Ivan DZYUBA, Ivan SVITLYCHNYI, and other writers in the Ukraine, like SOLZHENITSYN and VOZNESENSKY in Russia, are among those dissident intellectuals actively striving for greater liberalization and wider freedoms in the Soviet Union. SHELEST, to whom the document is addressed, is not only the Party boss in the Ukraine (1st Secretary of the CC CPU), but he also is a member of the Polit Bureau in Moscow.

2. SB/CA has a report from a Western traveller who visited the Soviet Union in July of this year and talked to Ivan SVITLYCHNYI (who was arrested in 1965 and sent to prison, but released earlier this year as a result of all the furor by his colleagues and because of all the noise made in the West about his arrest). According to SVITLYCHNYI, highest Party and governmental elements, including the KGB chief in Kiev, were involved in the 1965-1966 arrests of Ukrainian intellectuals. CHORNOVIL in his letter to SHELEST, reveals names of KGB officers involved in the interrogations and arrests.

SVITLYCHNYI told the source that on 22 May of this year a crowd of several hundred gathered in Kiev at the Shevchenko monument to celebrate the anniversary of the transfer of the poet's remains from Petersburg to Kiev. As has happened in the past during ceremonies commemorating the memory of this much celebrated national poet of the Ukraine, the occasion evoked a nationalist spirit in the recitations and singing

*Plus reported
on 14 Sept 67 ipk
of content with zhylko*

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which ensued. The local militia tried to break up the demonstration and arrested several of the leaders. As a result, more people joined the crowd and they all marched to the building housing the CC CPU to demand the release of the individuals arrested. The authorities yielded and released the individuals. Another more recent source, who supplied information about this same incident, said there were recent indications that some of the demonstrators involved in the incident now were being fired from their jobs.

SVITLYCHNYY said it was important to publish in the West documents such as the attached and others obtained in the Soviet Union, and that once such documents are circulated in the Soviet Union, there is no longer any need to keep their existence in the West a secret. Authorities are forced to deal with caution in the cases of persecuted intellectuals about whom the West shows any concern. SVITLYCHNYY showed the source a reply received from authorities in response to an appeal on behalf of Opanas Ivanovych ZALYVAKHA, a journalist and artist from Ivano-Frankovsk, who having been sentenced under article 62 of the Criminal Code of the UkSSR, is serving a 5 year sentence in a corrective labor camp. Following his imprisonment in 1966, the authorities forbid ZALYVAKHA to paint and ordered him to destroy all the paintings he had completed in the past. The reply, dated 24 June 1967, signed by the Prosecutor in Moscow, stated that he (the Prosecutor) was disappointed in the fact that the individuals who signed the appeal were intervening on behalf of ZALYVAKHA, who was sentenced for "anti-Soviet, nationalist and deviationist (abstract painting) activity" and who refused to paint Soviet slogans on signs in the prison camp when so ordered. The appeal, naturally, was denied.

The source was told that although an amnesty was expected during the October Revolution anniversary celebrations, it would not include Soviet Ukrainian intellectuals sentenced in the past two years. This feeling is based on the experience with the appeal on ZALYVAKHA's behalf and on the fact that restrictions in the prison camps in which their colleagues are serving sentences have been tightened recently.

3. A Project AERODYNAMIC source, who spoke with a Soviet Ukrainian philologist at the 10th International Congress of Linguists in Bucharest (28 August to 2 September 1967), said that Moscow considered the arrests in 1965-1966 of Ukrainian intellectuals a tactical blunder on the part of the KGB, which unnecessarily led to exasperation and the strengthening of nationalist sentiments. Reportedly, according to this source,

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there will be a new wave of intellectual persecution in late 1967, following the Ivan Franko and October Revolution celebrations. SEMICHASTNY's arrival in Kiev gave birth to this speculation and feeling of anxiety in the Ukraine. The philologist said SEMICHASTNY is an exponent of anti-Ukrainian policy and some Ukrainians fear that his "settling down" in Kiev will initiate new anti-Ukrainian measures. Moscow's policy in the Ukraine continues to be directed at the Russification of Ukrainians. By sending Russians to work in Ukrainian industrial and administrative establishments (under the pretext of supplying specialists and experts to help in the Ukraine), a surplus of working power is created, thus forcing unemployed Ukrainians to seek employment in non-Ukrainian areas, primarily in ethnic Russia and the Kuban.

*X sample
for
Daniel
Sinyavsky
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This source (the Soviet Ukrainian philologist) also told our source that Ukrainians who are in prison with DANIEL and SINYAVSKIY have reported that DANIEL was learning the Ukrainian language and working at translating the poetry of the 19th Century Ukrainian contemporary writer, Lesya Ukrayinka into Russian. SINYAVSKIY, on the other hand, was experiencing some sort of spiritual awakening, and preaching "a la Tolstoy non-violence" toward the prison camp administrators.

4. The existence of the CHORNOVIL document in the West is classified information at the present time. SB/CA is in the process of seeking a means to surface the document, which should provoke some international publicity once it is out in print. SB/CA would appreciate any suggestions you have concerning publications which might serve as a surfacing vehicle for this document and to which your office might have access. Please address any comments you may have concerning this memorandum to Ann Stunder in room 5B4804, extension 6508.

SB/CAO

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SOVIET TOURISTS PLANNING VISIT NEW YORK, WASHINGTON, SAN FRANCISCO,
LOS ANGELES. TOUR ARRANGED BY GENERAL TOURS.

Late Oct.

BOGANOV, VLADIMIR MIKHAYLOVICH: Apr 26, 1930, Moscow. Cameraman,
Mosfilm Movie Studio.

CHIAURELI, VLADIMIR IVANOVICH: June 18, 1912, Tbilisi. Movie Critic.

DOBRODEYEV, BORIS TIKHONOVICH: Apr 28, 1928, Voronezh. Deputy
Chairman, All Union Commission for Movie Drama, USSR Union
Cinema Artists.

DOLENKOV, BORIS DMITRIYEVICH: June 8, 1918, Moscow. Artists,
Producer, Gorky Movie Studio.

DZHAPARIDZE, MEDYA VALERIANOVNA: Feb 20, 1922, Tbilise. Actress.

GELTS, ARIADNA SERGEYEVNA: Nov 14, 1915, Kolomna. Script writer.

LUCHKO, KLARA STEPANOVNA: July 1, 1925, Chutovo. Movie Actress.

MAKLYARSKIY, ISIDOR BORISOVICH: Nov 16, 1909, Odessa. Director,
Course for Script Writers and Producers.

MERKEL, MAYA MAKSOVNA: May 11, 1927, Moscow. Movie Critic, Producer.

RAPOPORT, ELZA DAVYDOVNA: Oct 13, 1913, Odessa. Artist, Gorky
Movie Studio.

RYZHEY-TUR, PETR LVOVICH: Jan 24, 1908, Kiev. Playwright.

STEPANYAN, YEREM AVANESOVICH: Apr 27, 1927, Baku. Chief,
Administration for Movie Distribution, Armenian SSR.

TABUKASHVILI, REVAZ SHALVOVICH: Oct 2, 1927, Tbilisi. Script Writer.

YAKOVICH, MIKHAIL YAKOVLEVICH, July 26, 1923, Turov. Cameraman,
Gorky Movie Studio.

ZATSEPIN, ALEKSANDR SERGEYEVICH: Mar 10, 1926, Novosibirsk. Composer.

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
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DATE 2007

October 5, 1967